



## **Connecticut State Dental Association**

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**Legislative Testimony  
Appropriations Committee  
Governor's Bill No. 7027 – An Act Concerning the State Budget for the  
Biennium Ending June Thirtieth 2019, and Making Appropriations Therefor  
Thursday, February 23, 2017**

Dear Senator Formica, Senator Osten, Representative Walker, and Members of the Appropriations Committee,

My name is Dr. Gary Linker. I am President-Elect of the Connecticut State Dental Association, a statewide, professional membership organization representing 70% of all licensed dentists in Connecticut. I have been practicing dentistry in New Britain for 40 years. I am here today to support Haven and oppose the Governor's proposal concerning Haven, to repeal mandated reporting, eliminate the professional assistance account and move the funds to the general fund.

Haven is an organization that deals with impaired health care providers. Haven was created in 2007 and has helped over a 1000 individuals. In 2015 all licensed Health workers had their fee increased by \$5 with this money specifically earmarked for Haven. To date the funds have not been transferred to Haven and the Governor's proposal would eliminate this possibility. This is unacceptable. I would urge you to restore Haven's funding immediately.

Respectfully Submitted,

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